

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 PRS-01 INR-07 NSC-05

DHA-02 L-03 /045 W

-----280437Z 104655 /14

P 280244Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 422

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

CINCPACREPPHIL PRIORITY

13TH AF PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI, SHUM, RP

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PRESS PLAY ON HERRERA CASE AND ON SECURITY
DOG INCIDENT AT CLARK

REF: A) MANILA 8115; B) MANILA 8117

1. DAILY EXPRESS OF MAY 28 CARRIED FOLLOWING EDITORIAL
BY VALENCIA UNDER TITLE OF "THE TRAINED DOG AND ITS
RIGHTS". FULL TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE. THE
ASIAN ECONOMIC REVIEW, REPORTING ON US INTERFERENCE IN THE
CASE OF TRINIDAD HERRERA, PREDICTED THAT THE CASE WILL
TRIGGER EMBARRASSING SITUATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES.
QUESTIONS MAY BE ASKED WHY THE US IS DIRECTLY INTERVENING
IN THE PHILIPPINES BUT NOT IN SOUTH KOREA. THE HERRERA
CASE DID NOT CREATE ANY RIPPLES IN MANILA. THE AMERICAN
"INTERVENTION" WAS OBVIOUSLY PERMITTED BY THE PRESIDENT.
THE PHILIPPINES HAS SERVED NOTICE THAT SHE HAS NOTHING
TO HIDE. THAT IF TORTURES DO TAKE PLACE, THEY'RE
NOT CONDONED--ON THE CONTRARY, THE VICTIMS ARE
RESCUED AND THE CULPRITS PUNISHED, NO MATTER WHO THEY MAY
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BE.

WHILE WE HAVE ESTABLISHED OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS THAT PRESIDENT CARTER SEEMS SO DETERMINED TO PUSH
EVERYWHERE EXCEPT CHINA AND RUSSIA, WHERE THE AMERICANS
OBVIOUSLY CAN'T INTERFERE, THE US GOVERNMENT HAS YET TO
MAKE ONE STATEMENT ON THE ISSUE OF DOG RIGHTS AND

HUMAN RIGHTS INVOLVED IN THE CLARK AIR BASE INCIDENT
FEATURING A DOG ATTACK ON AN UNARMED AND HELPLESS
FILIPINO BOY. THE RIGHTS OF THE DOG ARE IN ISSUE,
TOO. MOST OF ALL, THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE FILIPINOS AGAINST
THE AMERICAN DISREGARD OF THOSE RIGHTS IS IN ISSUE, TOO.
IS AMERICA OUT TO ENFORCE HUMAN RIGHTS EVERYWHERE EXCEPT
IN THEIR OWN INSTITUTIONS?

THE US EMBASSY ANNOUNCED THAT IF FOUND GUILTY, THE
CLARK AIR BASE DOG OR THE SERGEANT WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
TORTURE OF A FILIPINO SCAVENGER WILL BE PUNISHED. I WISH
TO INVOKE THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE DOG. IT APPEARS THAT THE
SERGEANT IS ABOUT TO PIN THE BLAME ON HIM. THE DOG
SHOULD BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO CROSS-EXAMINE THE SERGEANT
BUT THE TROUBLE IS TO LOCATE A JUDGE OR AN INVESTIGATOR WHO
UNDERSTANDS THE DOG LANGUAGE THAT ONLY THE DOG AND ITS
TRAINER UNDERSTAND. THE DOG, OBVIOUSLY, HAS BEEN DISOWNED

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BY HIS TRAINER--SOMETHING THE DOG SHOULD PROTEST.
BUT HOW? PERHAPS THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE AMERICAN
HUMAN RIGHTS FORMULA THAT COULD APPLY TO THIS POOR DOG.

SHOULD THE US AIR FORCE FIND THE DOG GUILTY OF
ATTACKING THE HELPLESS FILIPINO BOY ON HIS OWN, THE
PROBABLE PUNISHMENT IS DEATH OR DEPRIVATION OF LATRINE
PRIVILEGES. IN WHICH CASE, THE BRITISH SPCA WOULD HAVE A
RIGHT TO INTERVENT TO PROTECT THE CANINE FROM HUMANS WHO

ARE INHUMAN. I PERSONNALLY CAN'T BLAME THE DOG EVEN IF THE US AUTHORITIES ARE DETERMINED TO SEE IF THE DOG CAN TAKE THE RAP. THOSE DOGS ARE TRAINED. IF THEY ARE NOT, AND THEY ARE FOUND TO HAVE WILLS OF THEIR OWN, THEN THE US CANINE CORPS STANDS INDICTED FOR INEFFICIENCY. THE MATTER IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE COMPLICATED.

A US ARMY GENERAL WAS SACKED BECAUSE HE DARED SAY SOMETHING THAT DID NOT JIBE WITH THE CARTER PLAN TO GIVE BACK HUMAN RIGHTS TO THE KOREANS BY MOVING OUT OF KOREAN BASES. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE DOG THAT DARED MAKE A MOCKERY OF MR. CARTER'S REVISED HUMAN RIGHTS FORMULA

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IS SOMETHING I CAN PREDICT. INSOFAR AS THE SERGEANT IS CONCERNED, IT IS LIKELY HE WILL BE SAVED. AFTER ALL, HE HAS A SCAPEGOAT--HIS DOG. AFTER ALL, IN THE NEW DEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THERE'S ONE FOR BIG POWERS AND ANOTHER FOR SMALL FRY NATIONS LIKE THE PHILIPPINES. I AM SURE HUMAN RIGHTS DO NOT INCLUDE FILIPINO SCAVENGERS AT US BASES. THE QUESTION IN ISSUE HERE ARE THE RIGHTS OF DOGS. THE DOGS OF THE US AIR FORCE APPARENTLY ARE GOING TO THE HUMANS. HENCE, THE THREAT OF PROPER DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

SINCE US CHARGE D'AFFAIRES STULL SAYS IT WILL EITHER BE THE DOG OR THE SERGEANT WHO WILL BE FOUND GUILTY, IT IS OUR TURN TO SUGGEST THAT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE BOTH ARE GUILTY. AND IF ONLY ONE IS GUILTY, I WOULD GUESS IT'S THE SERGEANT. THE DOG CAN INVOKE THE RIGHT NOT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON THE GROUND OF INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE. WHATEVER HAPPENS TO THIS CASE, THE CLASSIC US EMBASSY EXPLANATION WILL GO DOWN ON RECORD AS THE FIRST INVESTIGATION OF A MEMBER OF THE CANINE FAMILY. THE WORLD AWAITS THE VERDICT ON THE DOG, NOT ON THE SERGEANT. THE SERGEANT, WE CAN SURMISE, IS ALREADY INNOCENT RIGHT NOW. HE WILL BE GRANTED A "DUTY STATUS" PAPER. THE DOG IS HARDLY IN A POSITION TO JUSTIFY CHEWING AT A MAN'S LEG AS A FULFILLMENT OF DUTY. CERTAINLY NOT SOMETHING IT CAN JUSTIFY UNDER THE CARTER DOCTRINE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. END QUOTE.

2. SUBIC COMMANDER ADVISES THAT FORMAL CHARGES HAVE NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN MADE TO DATE ON DOG INCIDENTS AT SUBIC REPORTED IN REF B. MOREOVER, THERE HAS BEEN NOT REPEAT NO PRESS PLAY ON SUBIC INCIDENTS AT THIS TIME.

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Message Attributes

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